



INTERPRETATIONS & APPLICATIONS
OF BUILDING CODES & REGULATIONS #98-3

CODE SECTION : NEC Section 220-3, -(b)

02/10/98, Rev. 9/16/03

SUBJECT : Section 220-3, (b)- BRANCH CIRCUIT LOAD REQUIREMENTS

For the purposes of plans calculations and installation requirements, the following loads and branch circuit requirements may be used where the actual nameplate rating is not available.

| | LOAD | CONDUCTOR AMPACITY | SINGLE PHASE NOMINAL VOLTAGE |
|--|-----------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| ELECTRIC CLOTHES DRYER | 5,000 VA | 30 AMPERE | 120/240V |
| WATER HEATER | 6,000 VA | 30 AMPERE | 240V |
| DISHWASHER | 1,500 VA | 20 AMPERE | 120V |
| GARBAGE DISPOSAL | 800 VA | 20 AMPERE | 120V |
| DISHWASHER/DISPOSAL (COMMON CIRCUIT) | 1,500 VA | 20 AMPERE | 120V |
| EVAPORATIVE COOLER | 1,200 VA | 20 AMPERE | 120V |
| COMPACTOR | 1,000 VA | 20 AMPERE | 120V |
| WALL MOUNTED OVEN OR COUNTER MOUNTED COOKING UNITS | 6,000 VA | 30 AMPERE | 120/240V |
| RANGE | 12,000 VA | 50 AMPERE | 120/240V |
| GAS FIRED CLOTHES DRYER | 1,500 VA | 20 AMPERE | 120V |
| CLOTHES WASHER | 1,500 VA | 20 AMPERE | 120V |
| MICROWAVE OVENS (FIXED) | 1,300 VA | 20 AMPERE | 120V |

“Note: the above calculations are without appropriate NEC demands, which may be taken where permitted in the NEC.

“If appliances are installed having higher nameplate ratings than the minimum loads specified above, the conductors shall be increased to the proper size. Where limited storage capacity water heaters are specified, the nameplate rating of the unit(s) shall be used.